दिनांक 27 जून, 1995 को उन निहत्थे विस्थापित नागरिकों पर गोली चलाने के आदेश दिए थे जो अपनी मांगों के समर्थन में "चक्का जाम" प्रदर्शन कर रहे थे;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि इस परियोजना के सुरक्षा अधिकारी ने 12-बोर की राइफल से गोली चलाई थी जिससे अनेक लोग घायल हुए जो इस समय गंभीर हालत में हैं; और

(ग) सरकार इस मामले में क्या कार्रवाई करने का विचार रखती है और इस घटना के शिकार व्यक्तियों को कितना-कितना मुआवजा दिया गया अथवा दिए जाने का विचार है?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) नार्दर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि॰ (ना॰ को॰ लि॰) से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार पुलिस ने प्रदर्शनकारियों पर तब गोली चलाई जबकि वे हिंसा की कार्रवाई करने लगे थे। गोली चलाए जाने से इस संबंध में चार व्यक्तियों को चोटें आईं।

(ग) चूंकि यह कानून तथा व्यवस्था का मामला है, अतः इस संबंध में कार्रवाई किया जाना राज्य सरकार के कार्यक्षेत्र के अंतर्गत आता है।

Krishna Fire Works Blaze

*6. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the findings of the inquiry by the team of the Campaign against Child Labour and Voluntary Health Association of India, into the Krishna Fire Works Blaze of May 24, 1995 in Rohtak (Haryana); and

(b) if so, what effective steps have been taken to prevent employment of children in such hazardous job indicating the latest Government's estimates about the number of children employed in the country in match and fire works?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Apart from the prohibitory provisions under the various labour laws like the Factories Act, 1948, Mines Act, 1952, Bidi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, Child Labour is also prohibited in scheduled occupations/processes under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The enforcement of the provisions of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 is being monitored by the Central Government. All the State Governments/UTs are also to enforce the child related Laws.

In addition to the above, National Authority for the Elimination of Child Labour (NAECL) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister to tackle the problem of child labour. The NAECL has adopted a plan of action titled "Identification, Release and Rehabilitation of Child Labour" to tackle the problem of child labour in the country. Briefly, it calls for a convergence of services and schemes of the Central and State Governments at the implementing level—the district—to effectively handle the identification and rehabilitation of child labour, the economic rehabilitation of the family with child labour and stricter enforcement of relevant Laws. This plan of action has been sent to all States/UTs for adoption.

Following up on a call given by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech on the 15th of August, 1994, it is proposed to allocate Rs. 850 crores for elimination of child labour from hazardous employments by the year 2000 AD. In the current year, an amount of Rs. 34.4 Crores has also been provided. A major awareness campaign has already been launched. Further, it is proposed to hold a workshop of heads of 100 child labour endemic districts at New Delhi in September 1995 to work out modalities of eliminating child labour in a district-specific and employment-specific manner.

India has been participating in the International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). For the period from 1992 to 1995, there has been an allocation to India, under this program-

me, of the order of over Rs. 10 crores. Altogether 89 projects with an outlay of Rs. 8.5 crores have been approved under IPEC and are in different stages of implementation.

The National Child Labour Project has also been concurrently under implementation in 12 different areas of the country to take children out of employment in several industries—lass, brass-ware, locks, carpet, slate, tiles, match and fireworks, gems, chemicals and beedi. The National Labour Institute has been undertaking employment-specific studies on the status of children engaged in different employments and these studies give valuable inputs for formulating and implementing programmes for elimination of child labour.

Regional meetings of State Labour Ministers have been held in the months of September and October, 1994 and in these meetings the States have been urged to prepare their own action plans.

In all the programmes relating to child labour elimination, non-Government organisations are being involved in a big way.

No separate data are being maintained industry-wise regarding child labour employment.

Central Legislation for Agricultural Labour

*7 SHRI MD. SALIM:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward a Central legislation for agricultural labour; if so, by when; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The proposal for a Central legislation for agricultural workers is under active consideration of the Government.

Private sector in captive coal mining

*8. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for the induction of the private sector in captive mining indicating guidelines/criteria laid down in this regard;

(b) how many private companies were selected by the Screening Committee indicating also for which purpose these companies were allocated coal mining blocks; and

(c) how many proposals were received/placed before the Committee, indicating composition of the Screening Committee and whether more meetings of the Committee are likely to be held in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 was amended in 1993 to allow private sector in coal mining for generation of power, for washing of coal obtained from a mine, or for other end uses to be notified by Government from time to time, in addition to the existing provisions for the production of iron and steel. A statement giving the criteria laid down in this regard is laid on the Table of the House. (*See below*).

(b) 12 private companies have been offered captive coal blocks by the Screening Committee. Nine of these companies were offered blocks for power generation, two for sponge iron production and one for pig iron production

(c) 36 proposals were received and placed before the Committee. A statement giving the composition of the Screening Committee is laid on the Table of the House. The Committee meets periodically.